

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0031] as follows:

The proteins used in the screening assay are preferably recombinant proteins, which can be obtained according to conventional methods by transforming a suitable host with a plasmid carrying the sequence encoding the protein. In the case of APC11, the preferred host cells are *E. coli* cells, because they are devoid of endogenous APC. The cDNA sequences of the protein components APC11, E1, E2 and ubiquitin are available from the literature and from databases. The assay components APC11, preferably human APC11 (Gene Bank Accession No. AF247565 (SEQ ID NO:1)), E2 and optionally ubiquitin are usually produced and purified as fusion proteins; E1 is purified due to its reversible interaction with ubiquitin according to known methods (e.g. Hatfield, P.M., *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 265:15813-15817 (1990); Hatfield, P.M., and Vierstra, R.D., *J. Biol. Chem.* 267:14799-14803 (1992)). In the case of using untagged ubiquitin, this assay component is commercially available (e.g. from Sigma, Fluka).

Please amend paragraph [0033] as follows:

A suitable ubiquitin activating enzyme is the wheat UBA1 E1 (gene bank Accession number M55604 (SEQ ID NO:2)), however, UBA1 E1 from other species may also be used, which can be purified on a ubiquitin affinity matrix according to published procedures (e.g. Hatfield, P.M., *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 265:15813-15817 (1990); Hatfield, P.M., and Vierstra, R.D., *J. Biol. Chem.* 267:14799-14803 (1992)).

Please amend paragraph [0034] as follows:

As ubiquitin conjugating enzyme (E2) in a preferred embodiment, the human variant UBCH5b (gene bank accession number U39317 (SEQ ID NO:3)) is used, although, also in this case, UBCH5b homologues from other species, e.g. *Xenopus laevis*, may be employed. Alternatively, UBCH5a or UBCH5c can be used. Preferably the ubiquitin conjugating enzyme E2 is fused to an affinity tag which is selected from the ones listed above as suitable for APC11, but different from the tag chosen for APC. For example, in the case that GST-APC11 is used, His(6) or another tag different from GST is used for tagging E2.